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REMARKS

Status Of Claims

Allowable claim 9 is the only currently pending claim of this application. Claims 1-8 and 10-12 have been canceled in order to advance prosecution. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of the canceled claims at a future time, or in a separate application. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's conclusion claim 9 contains allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 9 is amended herein into independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 1. As original claim 9 was directly dependent on claim 1, there is no intervening claim.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of claim 9.

Response To Drawing Objections

Figure 3

The drawings stand objected to under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5). Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy shown during a telephonic conversation with the undersigned on May 17, 2005, clarifying the nature of the objection to the figures in respect to reference characters 232 and 252. Further to the telephonic conversation, Applicant understands the Examiner intended to indicate "Reference 232 on pg. 19, line 15" and "Reference 252 on pg. 19, line 21" should be included in at least one figure.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended FIG 3 to indicate reference characters 232

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and 252. As such, Applicant requests the withdrawal of this rejection.

Figure 9

FIG. 9 has been objected to for not bearing the label "Prior Art". Applicant has amended the drawing accordingly.

General Objection To Drawings

The drawings are objected to as allegedly no drawing illustrates the claim 8 recitation of "non-contacts" to said chamber".

Claim 8 has been canceled rendering this objection moot.

Request For Approval Of Drawing Corrections

Applicant files a Request For Approval Of Drawing Corrections for FIG. 3 and FIG. 9 concurrently herewith.

Response To Claim Objection

The Office Action indicates claim 10 is objected to at page 4. Claim 10 has been canceled rendering this objection moot.

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Response To Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Response To Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 3, 5-7 and 9-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over US 6,700,641 to Shiraishi ("Shiraishi '641").

Applicant notes that the reference to claim 9 in this rejection appears to be a typographical error in the Office Action. Claim 9 is indicated to be allowable in the Office Action Summary, as well as being identified as allowable in the Allowable Subject Matter section on page 9.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of any claim over Shiraishi '641. However, in order to advance prosecution, claims 1-8 and 10-12 are canceled herein. Applicant requests claims 1-8 and 10-12 be canceled without prejudice, or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of the canceled claims at a future time, or in a separate application.

Response To Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-3, 8 and 10-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over US 2001/0050759 to Kamiya ("Kamiya '759").

As discussed *supra*, claims 1-3, 8 and 10-12 have been canceled rendering their rejection over Kamiya '759 moot. However, Applicant respectfully traverses any rejection over Kamiya '759. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of the canceled claims at a future time, or in a separate application.

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Response To Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 4-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kamiya '759 in view of

US 2003/0192686 to Hisai et al ("Hisai '686").

Chaims 4-7 have been canceled rendering their rejection over Hisai '686 moot.

However, Applicant respectfully traverses any rejection over Hisai '686. Applicant reserves the

right to prosecute the subject matter of the canceled claims at a future time, or in a separate

application.

Conclusion

The claims are now believed to be in a form for allowance and such action is

hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved

through an additional personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to

contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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62287 vt

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AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5329. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

Dated: July 16, 2005

By:

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